

FLEA ALLERGIES

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Allergies

The most common allergy seen in the dog and cat is the result of flea bites! This is known as flea bite hypersensitivity or flea allergy dermatitis. The pet becomes allergic to the saliva transmitted by the bite of the flea. It only takes one flea bite to set off an allergic reaction in a flea allergic pet.

Pets can develop flea allergies at any age but most commonly they are at least 6 months old.

Dogs and cats are both susceptible.



Clinical Signs

The severity of itching does not necessarily reflect the number of fleas present. Many times there will be no fleas on the pet when it is examined, which may cause doubt that fleas are the problem. Flea dirt or feces may be found which looks like tiny black pieces of dirt. The areas of skin most commonly affected are the hind areas, over the tail head, the back and inner thighs, but can affect any area of skin. The skin may become red, inflamed, scabby, and infected. Fleas *must* be kept off the pet to control flea



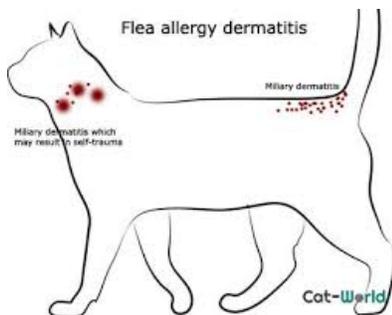


Treat

- Home
- Yard
- ALL pets
- Avoid stray animals

Location

- Neck
- Tail base
- Tail



allergic dermatitis.

Treatment

There are a wide variety of flea products available, ranging from topical to oral medications. It is important to be diligent with preventatives. This includes following directions and not lapsing on medications. Treatment of the house and yard is also essential in controlling fleas. This is the #1 problem to control when treating any pet for allergic type skin lesions. Without killing the fleas that are biting your pet, the allergy will persist, therefore the skin lesions will also.



With God all things are possible.

Mark 10:27